

# Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

2023 Reporting Week 10: March 05 — March 11



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

## COVID-19 Trends

COVID-19 levels decreased again for Okaloosa during Week 10, and the community level remains low. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level (Low):** Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

On December 20, 2022, the CDC released a health alert network (HAN) for [Important Updates on COVID-19 Therapeutics for Treatment and Prevention](#) which provides information on COVID-19 Omicron sublineages with reduced susceptibility to specific monoclonal antibody treatments.

## ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa slightly increased for Week 10, and is above the normal average for this period (current level: 2.80%; normal average: 2.0%). Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

On December 14, 2022, the CDC released a HAN for [Interim Guidance for Clinicians to Prioritize Antiviral Treatment of Influenza in the Setting of Reduced Oseltamivir](#) (e.g., Tamiflu). To date, the FDA and the Florida Department of Health have not received notification of shortages. General information on availability of antiviral medications can be found at [Influenza 2022-2034 \(fda.gov\)](#).

## Contact Us:

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# COVID-19 Snapshot

## Week 10 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
LOW	4.9	1.5%

## PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

## Week 10 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
SUBSTANTIAL	29.9	8.1%

## PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: SUBSTANTIAL

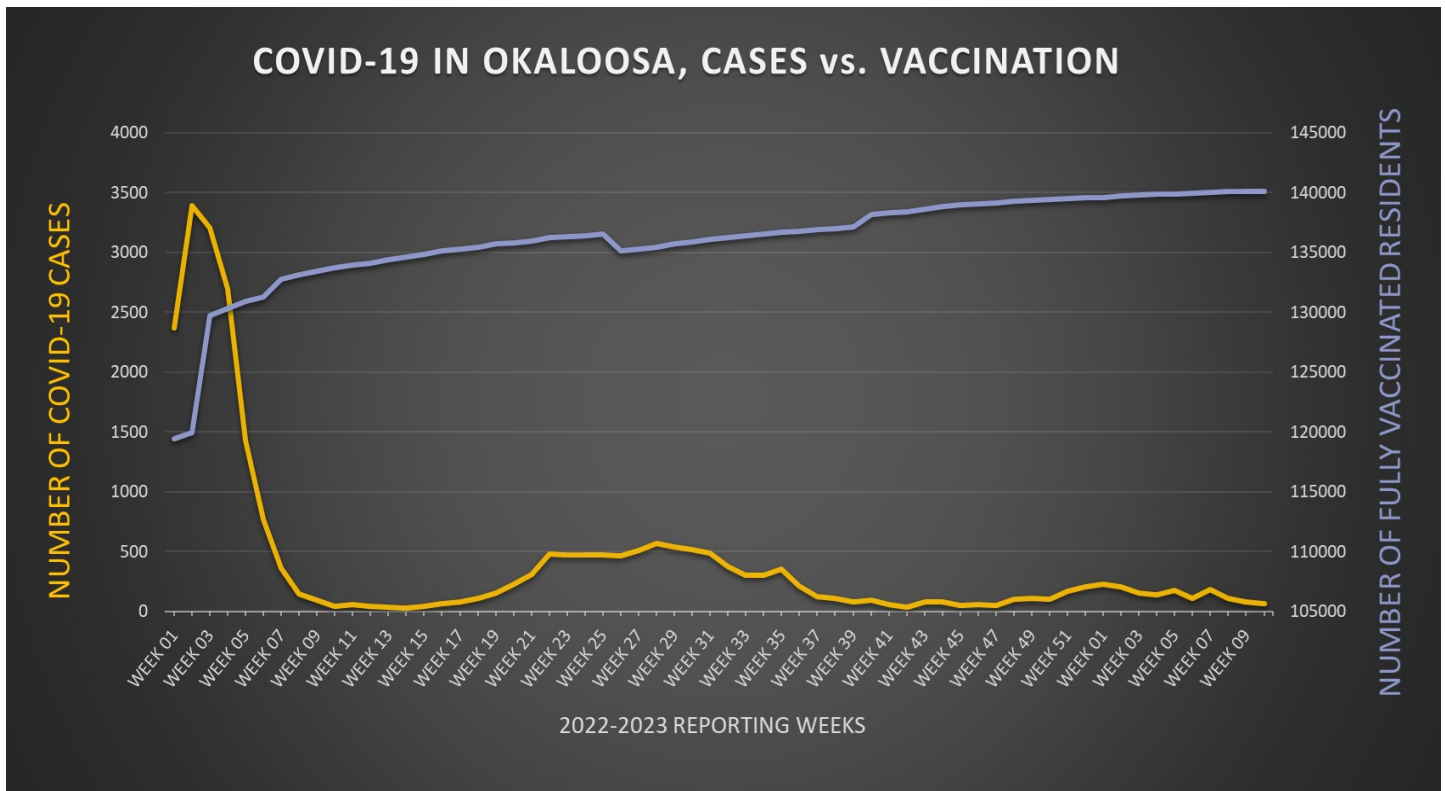
Low	<10	<5.0%
Moderate	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
High	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



# COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 10: March 05 - March 11



**Figure 1:** Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.  
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 10 Review		Difference from Wk10
Resident Case Count	63	-12
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	29.9	-5.7
Average Resident Cases per Day	9.0	-1.7
Percent Positivity	8.1%	-1.3

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or [NewsMedia@flhealth.gov](mailto:NewsMedia@flhealth.gov).

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	71.1%	73.3%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.9%	77.5%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.6%	79.0%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.3%

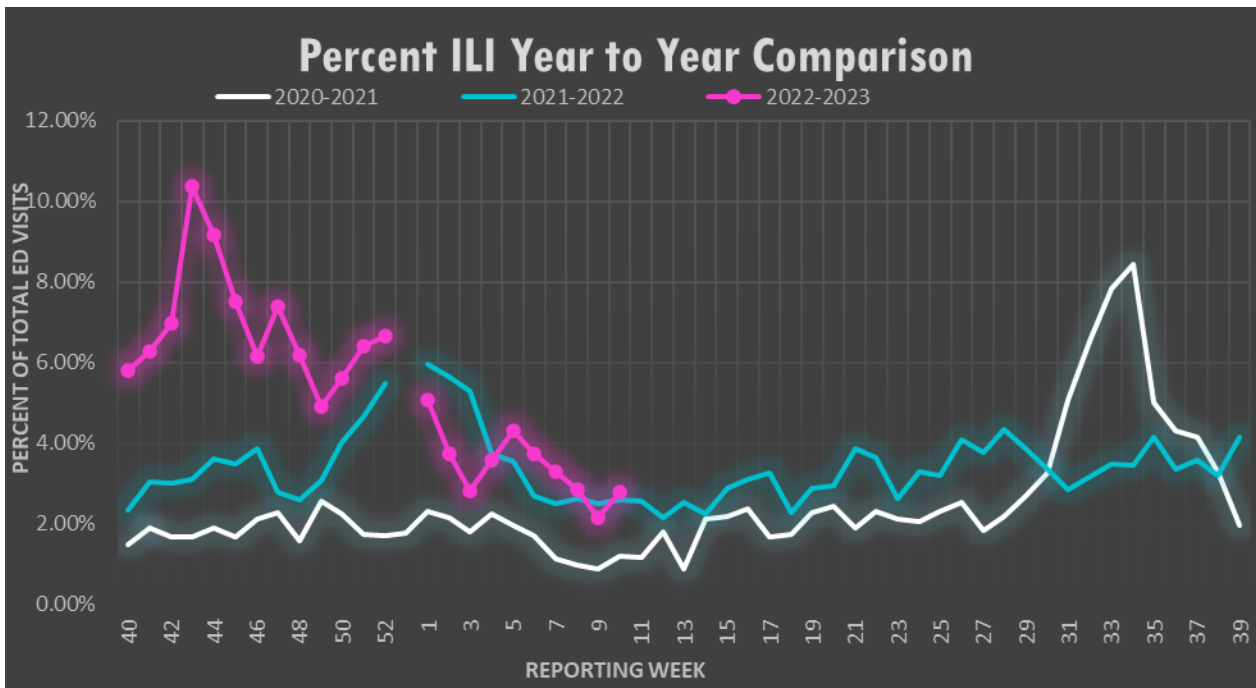
Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



# Influenza-Like Illness

Week 10: March 05 - March 11

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.



**Figure 2:** Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

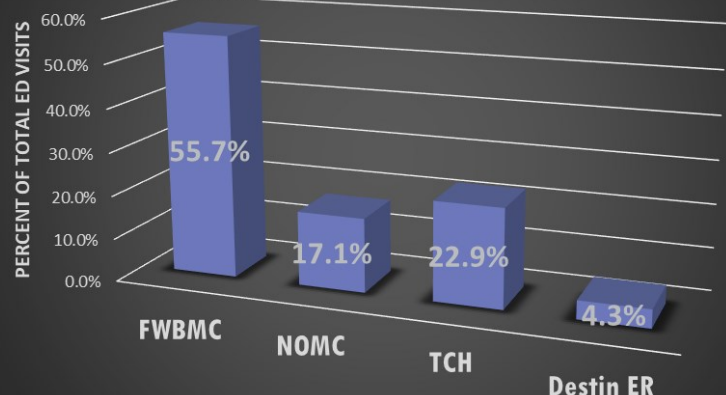
**ANALYSIS:** During Week 10, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 2.14% during Week 09 to 2.80% during Week 10. Flu partners reported 5 positive rapid flu tests this week (5 Influenza A). Over the past three weeks, 13 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (8 Influenza A H3 and 5 Influenza A H1N1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. No outbreaks have been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 10 is higher than that of Week 10 last year. *Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

## % ILI by Age Group Week 10, 2023

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	22	192	11.46%
5-19	24	343	7.00%
20-34	13	543	2.39%
35-54	7	552	1.27%
55-74	4	566	0.71%
75+	0	302	0.00%

Data Source: ESSENCE

## % of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 10, 2023



**Figure 3:** Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=70). Data source: ESSENCE



# Syndromic Surveillance

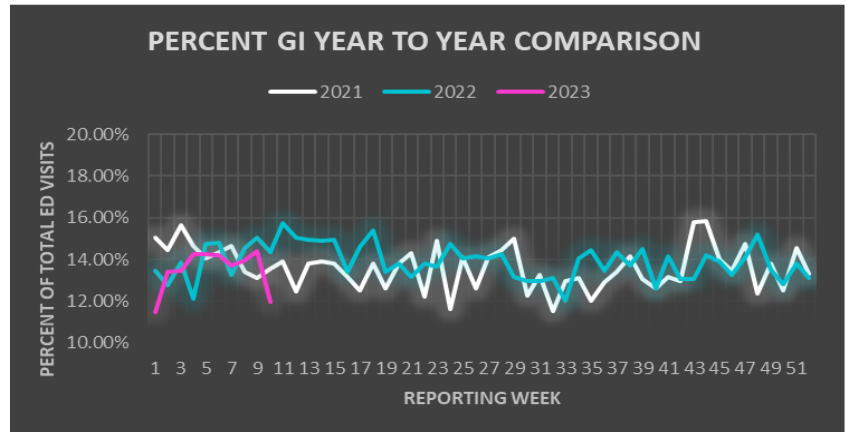
Week 10: March 05 - March 11

## Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

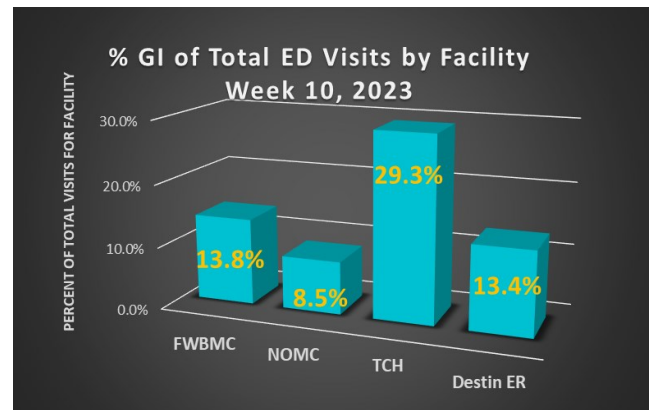


% GI by Age Group Week 10, 2023			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	31	192	16.15%
5-19	42	343	12.24%
20-34	70	543	12.89%
35-54	76	552	13.77%
55-74	59	566	10.42%
75+	22	302	7.28%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

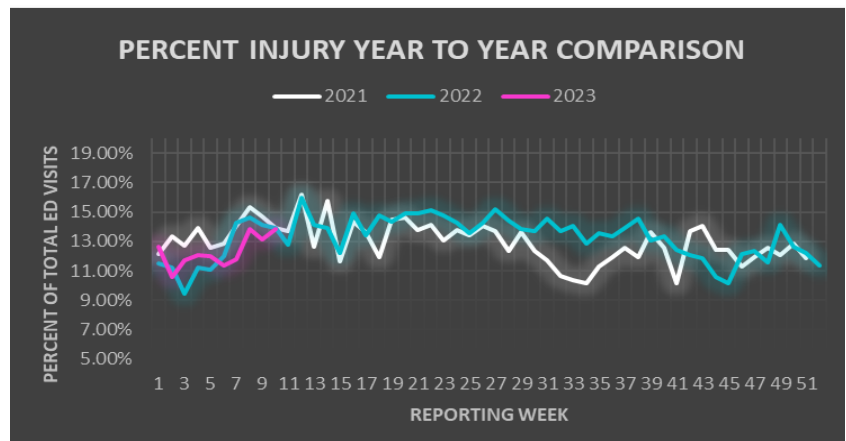


## Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Data Source: ESSENCE

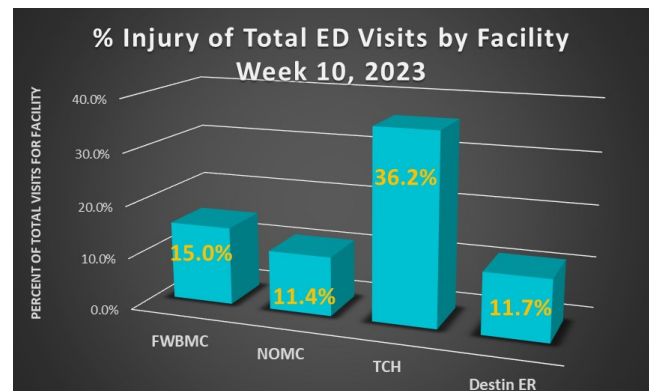


% Injury by Age Group Week 10, 2023			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	19	192	9.90%
5-19	56	343	16.33%
20-34	58	543	10.68%
35-54	83	552	15.04%
55-74	76	566	13.43%
75+	54	302	17.88%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE



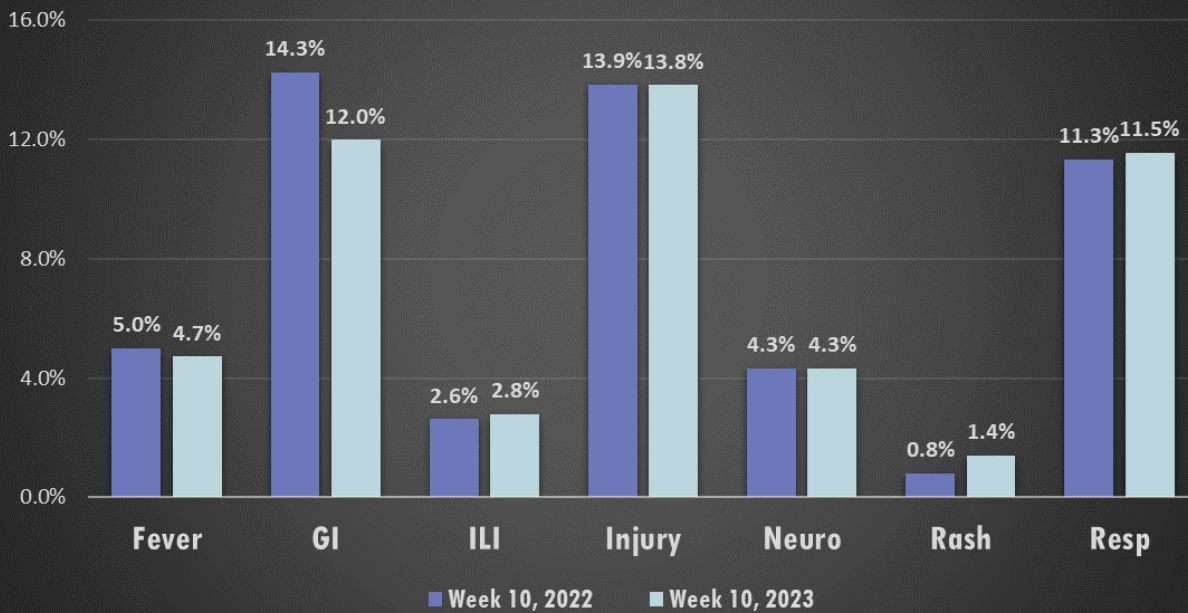




# Syndromic Surveillance

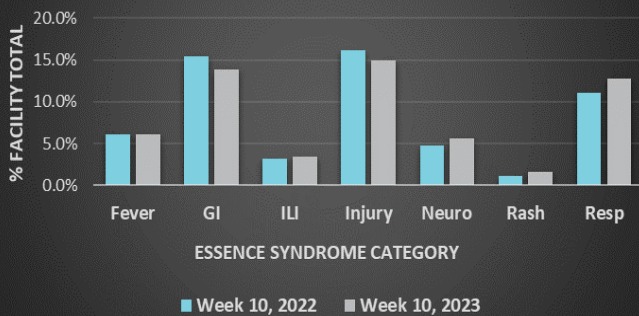
Week 10: March 05 - March 11

## Total ED Visits by Syndrome



**Figure 8:** Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2023 Week 10 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2504). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

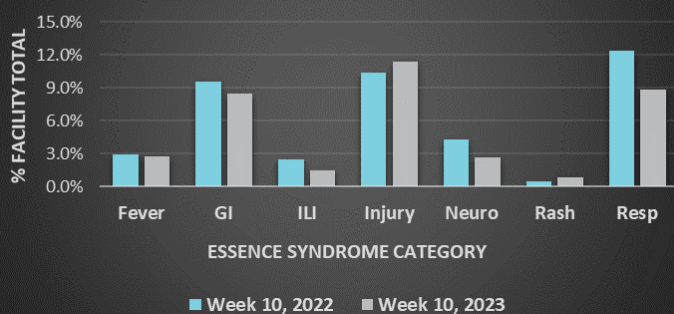
## Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 10- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	35
5-19	INJURY	32
20-34	GI	35
35-54	INJURY	42
55-74	INJURY	33
75+	INJURY	23

## North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



## Week 10- North Okaloosa Medical Center

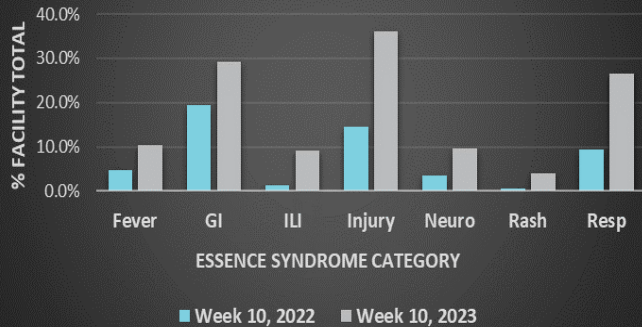
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	11
5-19	INJURY	15
20-34	INJURY	15
35-54	GI, INJURY	19, 19
55-74	RESP	21
75+	INJURY	21



# Syndromic Surveillance

Week 10: March 05 - March 11

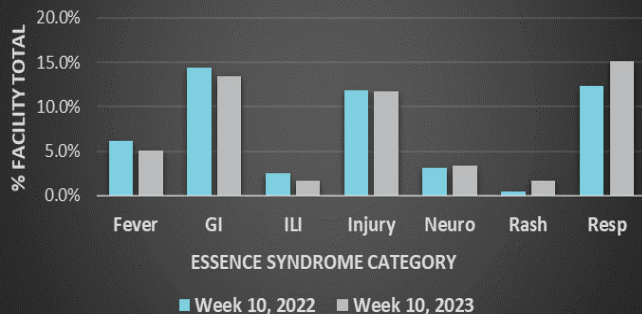
## Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



## Week 10- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	ILI, RESP	7, 7
5-19	GI	8
20-34	GI	13
35-54	INJURY	15
55-74	INJURY	17
75+	INJURY	10

## DestinER ED Presentations



## Week 10- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	3
5-19	RESP	9
20-34	GI	9
35-54	GI, INJURY	7, 7
55-74	RESP	7
75+	RESP	5

## Week 10—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	INJURY
20-34	GI
35-54	INJURY
55-74	INJURY
75+	INJURY



Data Source: ESSENCE